

TUCSONSTIMULUS

| Recovery and Reinvestment |



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Contact: David Schaller, OCSD
(520) 837-6931, (520) 665-1767
Nicole Urban-Lopez, OCSD
(520) 837-6934, (520) 400-0089

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TTY: (520) 791-2639
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TUCSON RECEIVES \$5.1 MILLION ENERGY-EFFICIENCY GRANT

The U.S. Department of Energy has awarded the City of Tucson a \$5.1 million Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant.

The City will use the grant over a three-year period for projects and programs that reduce energy use in both City government and the community. The funding is part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

This marks the first time that the City has had the resources to address energy-efficiency upgrades at the scale possible under the grant. The Office of Conservation and Sustainable Development (OCSD) will work with City departments, community non-profit organizations, homeowners, and businesses to achieve maximum economic, energy and environmental benefits.

The following are some of the projects approved by Mayor and Council in the City's grant application (complete information at www.tucsonaz.gov/recovery/fp2.html):

- a residential energy-efficient retrofit program
- conversion of neighborhood streetlights to energy-efficient lamps
- testing/upgrade of inefficient water booster pumps within Tucson Water's distribution system
- consolidation of the City's Information Technology (IT) data centers
- City facility water and energy audits
- a Green Business Certification Program

"OCSD will use the programs initiated under this grant and their resulting cost savings as a platform for building and supporting a larger community energy-efficiency initiative," said OCSD Director Leslie Ethen.

Tucson's Mayor and Council consider ARRA a means to fill funding gaps caused by the economic downturn. The City Manager and staff are pursuing all possible grants and awards available to the community.

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www.tucsonaz.gov/recovery